

REMARKS

Reconsideration of the pending application is respectfully requested on the basis of the following particulars.

1. In the claims

As shown in the foregoing LIST OF CURRENT CLAIMS, the claims have been amended to more clearly point out the subject matter for which protection is sought.

Claim 1 is amended to recite that each one of the plurality of meshes is non-uniform and has a different size and shape from at least each adjacent one of the plurality of meshes, which is also of non-uniform size and shape, so that the plurality of meshes do not form a discernible pattern. It is respectfully submitted that no new matter is added, since support for the amendments may be found, for example, at least in Figs. 3 through 6 of the pending application.

Claims 2-4 are left unchanged.

Entry of the LIST OF CURRENT CLAIMS is respectfully requested in the next Office communication.

2. Rejection of claims 1-4 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. publication no. 2003/0236045 (*Ching-Chen*)

Reconsideration of this rejection is respectfully requested, in view of the amendment to claim 1, on the basis that the *Ching-Chen* publication fails to disclose each and every recited feature of amended claim 1. The remaining claims depend from claim 1, and are therefore patentable as containing all of the recited elements of claim 1, as well as for their respective recited features.

By way of review, and as discussed in detail in the previous response, the embodiment of amended claim 1 requires a wrinkled net for making a cleaning implement that has a net body with a plurality of first wires extended in a first direction and a plurality of wires intersecting with the first wires and extended in a

second direction that is different from the first. The pluralities of the first and second wires are wrinkled in irregular directions, such that no discernible pattern is formed along any direction. A plurality of meshes is defined by the first and second wires to have irregular shapes along each direction. As amended, claim 1 further recites that each one of the plurality of meshes is non-uniform and has a different size and shape from at least each adjacent one of the plurality of meshes, which is also of non-uniform size and shape, so that the plurality of meshes do not form a discernible pattern.

One of the advantages previously mentioned with respect to the embodiment of amended claim 1 is that the unit density of the wrinkled net is higher, and thus, the claimed wrinkled net has excellent absorptive capacity.

The *Ching-Chen* publication fails to disclose a wrinkled net where each one of the plurality of meshes is non-uniform and has a different size and shape from at least each adjacent one of the plurality of meshes, which is also of non-uniform size and shape, so that the plurality of meshes do not form a discernible pattern.

As specifically recited in paragraph [0018], and as clearly shown in at least Figs. 3, 5, and 6, the *Ching-Chen* publication discloses a crimped bath scrubber that, while having irregular waved sections, has a repeating, discernible pattern (Figs. 3, 5, and 6; paragraphs [0005], [0018]). As particularly clearly shown in at least Fig. 3, a linearly discernible pattern exists among the meshes defined by the intersections of the yarns 12, 13. The pattern is formed in the blank material 10 when the blank material is passed through the patterning mold 40, as described in detail in paragraph [0018]. Since the patterning mold must either rotate continuously over the blank material 10, or clamp down in sections over the blank material 10, in either case, a repeatable, discernible pattern is formed in the blank material 10.

This regular discernible pattern is in contrast to the plurality of meshes recited in amended claim 1, which requires that each one of the plurality of meshes is non-uniform and has a different size and shape from at least each adjacent one of the

plurality of meshes, which is also of non-uniform size and shape, so that the plurality of meshes do not form a discernible pattern.

Since the *Ching-Chen* publication discloses meshes having a pattern, in contrast with amended claim 1, which requires that the plurality of meshes do not form a discernible pattern, the *Ching-Chen* publication fails to disclose every feature of amended claim 1, and withdrawal of this rejection is respectfully requested.

As mentioned above, applicants submit that independent claim 1 is patentable and therefore, claims 2-4, which depend from claim 1, are also considered to be patentable as containing all of the elements of claim 1, as well as for their respective recited features.

3. Conclusion

As a result of the amendment to the claims, and further in view of the foregoing remarks, it is respectfully submitted that the application is in condition for allowance. Accordingly, it is respectfully requested that every pending claim in the present application be allowed and the application be passed to issue.

If any issues remain that may be resolved by a telephone or facsimile communication with the applicant's attorney, the examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the numbers shown below.

BACON & THOMAS, PLLC  
625 Slaters Lane, Fourth Floor  
Alexandria, Virginia 22314-1176  
Phone: (703) 683-0500  
Facsimile: (703) 683-1080

Date: August 18, 2008

Respectfully submitted,



PATRICK M. BUECHNER  
Attorney for Applicant  
Registration No. 57,504